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meetings held at Atlantic City, or with important state meetings held in the autumn.

It is further recommended that sections be advised to include in their programs only subjects strictly pertinent to the section, leaving for general sessions all matters having general interest.

(Third Recommendation). It might be well also that the general program committee should feel that it has the right to exercise a stricter supervision of the section programs than it has hitherto done; that it might even decide not only how much, but whether any time at a conference should be allotted to the work of a particular section. It being understood, of course, that so far as it proved possible, the program committee would always give space to a section.

### Organization

On this subject your committee has not much to recommend. It would suggest that greater continuity than has hitherto obtained in regard to the secretaryship and the program committee of the section is desirable, in order that lines of work or of thought and investigation may be continued from year to year. The committee also suggested that the Council might advantageously consider whether or not the printed Proceedings would gain in interest by the inclusion in them of a greater number of section papers than has hitherto been usual. The sections, of course, would, as has been the case heretofore, pay the expense above a certain limit. The vote of the section interested might perhaps be taken as to the advisability of a special tax to cover such expenses."

By vote of Council the first and second recommendations were adopted, but the third recommendation was rejected. It was voted that the report of the committee on sections of the A. L. A. be presented to the Executive Board with a statement of the action of the Council thereon, with instructions to incorporate

its adopted provisions into amendments to by-laws 9 and 10.

### SECTIONAL MEETINGS OF THE LEAGUE OF LIBRARY COM- MISSIONS

The Middle West meeting of the League of Library Commissions was held in Chicago, Monday and Tuesday, January 3rd and 4th. There was a large attendance of Commission workers and librarians who were in the city for the meeting of the A. L. A. Council. Fourteen Commissions were represented,—Alabama, Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New York, North Dakota, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, there being present twenty-five active Commission workers, and eight members of Commission Boards.

The Stratford Hotel was again chosen for headquarters, and the sessions were held there. The first session was called to order Monday afternoon by A. L. Bailey, President of the League. Mr Bailey stated that since the last mid-winter meeting of the League a decision was reached at Bretton Woods to hold mid-winter meetings in three sections, Eastern, Mid-Western and Pacific Coast; the meeting in the Middle West to be followed by the Eastern meeting February 4th and 5th at Albany, N. Y. The annual meeting of the League held each year in connection with the A. L. A. meeting, affords the opportunity for general League action, the section meetings being held for conference and discussion of methods, and problems of the various kinds of work of the Library Commissions.

The topic for Monday afternoon was Field work, and Mrs Earl of the Indiana Library Commission, led in the discussion, "To what extent shall the Commissions supervise the libraries already established?" This was followed by a discussion of special phases of supervision, —work with the children, normal schools,

public and high schools, state institutions, etc.

Tuesday morning the report of the Publication Committee was given by the chairman, Miss Baldwin. The Yearbook which was to appear at the close of the year, had been delayed so that some matters, regarding its makeup might be discussed at the meeting, and a discussion of these items was taken up in the afternoon. This was followed by a discussion of the A. L. A. Booklist, and Miss Bascom, the editor, presented some of the problems which arise in the preparation of this list. As the various Library Commissions make the largest use of this list, the discussion proved to be most valuable and interesting. M. S. Dudgeon, Secretary of the Wisconsin Library Commission, presented the matter of subscription rates to periodicals through agencies, which was followed by discussion.

Lutie E. Stearns of Wisconsin, had charge of the part of the program devoted to Traveling Libraries, and Elizabeth B. Wales of Missouri, presented a practical paper on "The essentials of inaugurating a new traveling library system." This was based upon her own experience in inaugurating the traveling library system in Missouri, and was followed by an interesting discussion on the points brought out in her paper.

The Committee on uniform traveling library statistics, reported that satisfactory blanks for such statistics had been determined upon and had been put into print, and their use was recommended as a basis for the Yearbook statistics.

The Tuesday afternoon session which closed the League meetings, was largely devoted to a discussion of summer schools, and Martha Wilson of Minnesota, discussed "Balancing the course of instruction, technique vs inspiration."

The new Illinois Library Extension Commission was represented during the meeting by two members, who were introduced to the meeting as representatives of the youngest of the increasing group of Library Commission states.

The real spirit of the League meetings is not represented by the presentation of papers, but by the informal discussion of problems vital to Commission work, and the inspiration of personal conference.

Margaret W. Brown,  
Secretary.

### Eastern Section

The Eastern section of the League of Library Commissions met at the State Library, Albany, N. Y. on February 4 and 5. The account of the meeting could not be received in time to be included in this number of the A. L. A. Bulletin. From the program, however, it will be seen that topics of the greatest interest to Commission workers were considered.

At the first session, three papers were read by representatives of different Commissions, on the most vital questions in Commission work.

The following suggestions were made for discussion at the other sessions of the section:

1. What amount of supervision and inspection over town libraries by Library Commissions is justified?
2. How much assistance in cataloging and organizing should the Library Commission give to a library?
3. Is annual aid to libraries desirable? If so, how best can it be administered?
4. Which is the most profitable branch of the traveling library department, work with schools, study club, foreign population, or circulation of general collections?
5. Best methods of establishing traveling library stations?
6. Best ways of keeping traveling library records?
7. Should the Commission supply reading matter to prisons, reformatories, insane asylums and other state institutions?
8. How can Commissions best co-operate with each other?
9. Selection of books for small libraries?

10. Does the magazine clearing house pay?
11. How best conduct a library institute?

Marjary L. Gilson, Free public library, Newark, N. J.

Flora B. Roberts, Warrensburg (Mo.) state normal school.

## REVISED LIST OF A. L. A. COMMITTEES, 1909-10.

### Finance

C. W. Andrews, The John Crerar Library.

F. F. Dawley, Free Public Library, Cedar Rapids, Ia.

F. L. Haller, Public Library, Omaha, Neb.

### Publishing Board

H. E. Legler, chairman (term expires 1911).

C. W. Andrews (term expires 1912).

A. E. Bostwick (term expires 1912).

Mrs H. L. Elmendorf (term expires 1910).

H. C. Wellman (term expires 1911).

### Public documents

G. S. Godard, Connecticut state library.

Johnson Brigham, Iowa state library.

Ernest Bruncken, Library of Congress.

L. J. Burpee, Public library, Ottawa, Canada.

T. W. Koch, University of Michigan library.

Charles McCarthy, Wisconsin free library commission.

T. M. Owen, Alabama Dep't of archives and history.

S. H. Ranck, Public library, Grand Rapids, Mich.

J. D. Thompson, Library of Congress.

## Cooperation with the National Education Association

E. W. Gaillard, New York public library.

Mary E. Ahern, "Public Libraries."

Melvil Dewey, Lake Placid Club, N. Y.

## Library administration

H. W. Craver, Carnegie library, Pittsburgh.

H. M. Lydenberg, New York public library.

Ethel F. McCollough, Public library, Superior, Wis.

## Library training

A. S. Root, Oberlin College library.

Mrs. H. L. Elmendorf, Buffalo public library.

H. E. Legler, Chicago public library.

Mary W. Plummer, Pratt institute library school.

Grace D. Rose, Davenport (Ia.) public library.

Adam Strohm, Public library, Trenton, N. J.

Caroline M. Underhill, Utica (N. Y.) public library.

W. A. White, Brooklyn public library.

## International relations

E. C. Richardson, Princeton university library.

Cyrus Adler, Smithsonian institution.

J. S. Billings, New York public library.

W. C. Lane, Harvard university library.

Herbert Putnam, Library of Congress.

## Bookbuying

B. C. Steiner, Enoch Pratt free library, Baltimore.

W. P. Cutter, Forbes library, Northampton, Mass.

W. L. Brown, Buffalo public library.

## Bookbinding

A. L. Bailey, Wilmington institute free library.